

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated March 16, 2011, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the display portion displays the third key in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key such that the printing device may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the display portion displays the third key in response initiation of to the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key such that the printing device may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Claim 17 has been amended to clarify the displaying step occurs in response to the transforming step. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the

specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Claim 18 has been amended to clarify that the displaying step occurs in response to the transforming step. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the display portion displays the third key in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key such that the printing device may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Claim 20 has been amended to clarify that the display portion displays the third key in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and the second key such that the printing device may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at Figures 7-9 and paragraphs [0058]-[0067] of the specification.

Entry and consideration of the claim amendments is respectfully requested.

Art Rejections

Claims 1-3, 8-11 and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Takahashi (U.S. 6,424,429). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claims 4 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Takahashi (U.S. 6,424,429) in view of Nishiyama (U.S. 6,067,168). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claims 21-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Takahashi (U.S. 6,424,429) in view of Aina (U.S. 5,663,800). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claims 27 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Takahashi (U.S. 6,424,429) in view of Matsuyama (U.S. 6,886,028). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Exemplary claim 1 has been amended to recite that the display portion displays the third key ***in response to*** the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key such that the printing device may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

Thus, the timing of the display of, and function of, the third key is tied to the functions performed by the first and second keys. Specifically, the first key causes image data received by the input device to be transferred to the memory-incorporating apparatus. The second key causes an image to be formed from that same image data. In response to the actions caused by pressing the first and

second keys, the third key is automatically displayed. Then, once the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key. That is, the same image data associated with the operation of the first and second keys is read from the memory-incorporating apparatus.

For example, in an embodiment to which claim 1 is not limited, as depicted in the flow chart of Figures 7 and 8 of the application, after an image is formed at step S91 in response to pressing of the "Start" key at step S85, the memory recall key (the third key) is displayed at step S94. It is respectfully submitted that Takahashi does not disclose, or otherwise suggest, that the third key is displayed in response to the actions caused by pressing the first and second keys.

At pages 12-13 of the Official Action of March 16, 2011, the Office admits that Takahashi fails to disclose the step of displaying a third key in response to the formation of the image. The Office then asserts that Takahashi teaches displaying a key at the user interface of a server for inputting a command to recall an image data that was transferred and stored at an image memory. The Office then asserts that Matsuyama discloses a user interface for a remote client device for retrieving an image stored at a server for image processing at the client device. Without acquiescing to the alleged teachings in Takahashi and Matsuyama, or to the alleged reasons one skilled in the art would combine such alleged teachings, applicants respectfully traverse that the combination would result in the invention of claim 1. There is no disclosure of when to display the third key in Takahashi in view of Matsuyama. The cited art does not recognize or suggest that the display of, and function of, the third key is tied to the functions performed by the first and second

keys. That is, the mere (alleged) existence of a third key at a remote client device, does not teach or suggest the claimed third key or the manner in which such is displayed. Embodiments of the claimed invention allow for improved operability for a user instructing memory recall of the previous copy/scan job.

Claims 9, 17-20 and 27 are patentable over the cited art at least for similar reasoning. However, each independent claim is separate and unique and must be independently considered.

The rejections are respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

New Claim 29

New claim 29 has been added. Support for new claim 29 may be found throughout the specification and, for example, at paragraph [0067] of the specification. New claim 29 depends from claim 1 and is patentable over the cited art at least for the reasons claim 1 is patentable. Further, new claim 29 recites that, when the third key is pressed, the display portion prompts a user to press the second key, the pressing of which will cause the printing device to form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

The second key is the key that was previously pressed to accept a start instruction instructing to form the image data received by the input device.

In an embodiment to which claim 29 is not limited, when the third key (e.g., "memory recall" in Fig. 10) is pressed, a reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on an initial pressing of the second key (e.g., the "start" key). At the same time, the CPU displays a message, such as, "PRESS START KEY TO START

PRINTING. CHANGE NUMBER OF COPIES WITH 10-KEY KEYPAD." in a display screen. Once users press the second key (e.g., the "start key), the printing device prints an image with use of the received image data.

Claim 29 is patentable over the cited art.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons stated above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and to allow the present application.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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